

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Listing of the claims:

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which listing supersedes all previously presented claims:

Claims 1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, the data structure comprising:

a record information area having record information, a first identifying information area having first identifying information, and a second identifying information area having second identifying information, ~~wherein~~ the record information including includes 1) a plurality of first information units, 2) one or more second information units, each of which contains one or more first information units and 3) one or more third information units, each of which contains one or more first information units,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more second information units and indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and

wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third information units and indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit is allowable, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second

identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 9, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

12. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, the data structure comprising:

a record information area having record information, a first identifying information area having first identifying information, and a second identifying information area having second identifying information, ~~wherein~~ the record information including includes one or more information units and one or more third information units which can be set by a user,

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more information units and indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and ~~wherein~~ the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third information units and indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit is allowable, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second

identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 12, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

15. (Currently Amended) An information recording method comprising the steps of:

recording record information on a recording medium, the record information including 1) a plurality of first information units, 2) one or more second information units, each of which contains one or more first information units and 3) one or more third information units, each of which contains one or more first information units;

recording first identifying information on the recording medium; and

recording second identifying information on the recording medium;

~~wherein the record information includes 1) a plurality of first information units, 2) one or more second information units each of which contains one or more first information units and 3) one or more third information units each of which contains one or more first information units,~~

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more second information units and indicates whether a corresponding second information unit

is in a logically erased state, and ~~wherein~~ the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third information units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 15, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

18. (Currently Amended) An information recording method comprising the steps of:

recording record information on a recording medium, the record information including one or more information units and one or more third information units, which can be set by a user;

recording first identifying information on the recording medium; and

recording second identifying information on the recording medium;

~~wherein the record information includes one or more information units and one or more third information units which can be set by a user;~~

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more information units and indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and ~~wherein~~ the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third information units and prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The information recording method according to claim 18, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

21. (Currently Amended) An information recording medium encoded with a data structure; wherein the data structure comprises:

record information including 1) a plurality of first information units, 2) one or more second information units each of which contains one or more first information units and 3) one or more third information units each of which contains one or more first information units,

first identifying information corresponding to each of the one or more second information units and indicating whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and

second identifying information corresponding to each of the one or more third information units and indicating whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit is allowable,

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 21, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

24. (Currently Amended) An information recording computer readable medium encoded with a data structure, wherein the data structure comprises:

record information including one or more information units and one or more third information units, which can be set by a user[[,]];

first identifying information<sub>i</sub> and

second identifying information<sub>i</sub>[[,]]

~~wherein the record information includes one or more information units and one or more third information units which can be set by a user,~~

wherein the first identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more information units and indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and wherein the second identifying information corresponds to each of the one or more third information units and indicates whether erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit is allowable, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The information recording medium according to claim 24, wherein the second identifying information indicates whether a corresponding third information unit is to be protected.

27. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, comprising:

means for recording record information of the data structure on a recording medium, the record information including (1) one or more first information units, (2) one or more second information units, each of which contains one or more first information

units, and (3) one or more third information units, each of which contains one or more first information units;

means for recording first identifying information on the recording medium, the first identifying information being related to each of the first information units and including a first data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding first information unit; and

means for recording second identifying information on the recording medium, the second identifying information being related to each of the third information units and including a second data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding third information unit,

wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

28. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 27, wherein the first data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding first information unit and the second data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding third information unit.



29. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 27, wherein the first data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding first information unit and the second data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding third information unit.

30. (Currently Amended) An information recording system for recording a data structure on a recording medium, comprising:

means for recording record information of the data structure on a recording medium, the record information including one or more first information units and one or more second information units, each of which can be set by a user;

means for recording first identifying information on the recording medium, the first identifying information being related to each of the first information units and including a first data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding first information unit; and

means for recording second identifying information on the recording medium, the second identifying information being related to each of the second information units and including a second data protect flag that prevents erasing or editing of a corresponding second information unit,

wherein the first identifying information indicates whether a corresponding second information unit is in a logically erased state, and

wherein, when one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information is changed, the other of the first identifying information and the second

identifying information changes relative to and in response to the change in the one of the first identifying information and the second identifying information.

31. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 30, wherein the first data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding first information unit and the second data protect flag prevents erasing of the corresponding second information unit.

32. (Previously Presented) The information recording system according to claim 30, wherein the first data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding first information unit and the second data protect flag prevents editing of the corresponding second information unit.